

## Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /115 W

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R 081202Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9980

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0637

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SA

SUBJECT: ANGLO AMERICAN INTEREST IN SOUTH AFRICA ELECTIONS

1. ZACH DE BEER, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ANGLO AMERICAN'S OPERATION IN ZAMBIA AT A DINNER IN LUSAKA FOR HARRY OPPENHEIMER TOLD US HE WOULD BE AWAY FROM THE COUNTRY IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR COMING FORTNIGHT ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNING FOR PROGRESSIVE PARTY IN APRIL 24 ELECTIONS. MOVE SIGNIFIES START OF DE BEER'S GRADUAL PHASE OUT FROM CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES OF PAST 18 MONTHS IN ZAMBIA FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT DECISION TO REPLACE EXPATRIATE TOP MANAGER OF NCHANGA CONSOLIDATED COPPER MINES WITH ZAMBIA, FORMER MINISTER OF LABOR WILSON CHAKULYA.

2. DE BEER WILL BE CAMPAIGNING LARGELY IN CAPE TOWN AREA. HE AND OPPENHEIMER ARE HOPEFUL PROGRESSIVES WILL TAKE AT LEAST TWO ADDITIONAL PARLIAMENTARY SEATS TO BUTRESS HELEN SUZMAN'S LONE AND LARGELY PROTEST STANCE, SO AS EVENTUALLY TO SHIFT PROGRESSIVE ROLE IN PARLIAMENT TO SOMETHING MORE CONSTRUCTIVE. WITH LUCK DE BEER RATHER OPTIMISTICALLY HOPES PROGS MAY GET 4-5 ADDITIONAL SEATS. UNITED PARTY FOLLOWING ELECTIONS. OPPENHEIMER APPARENTLY COMMITTED TO FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF DEFECTING UP FACTION IF LINK WITH PROGS CAN BE ARRANGED. DE BEER EXPLAINED THIS WOULD GIVE COMBINED LIBERAL FACTION

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SUPPORT OF 25 PERCENT OF ELECTORATE.

3. DE BEER CONFIDED HE HAS LITTLE HEART FOR POLITICS THESE DAYS, HAVING ENJOYED COMMAND POSITION IN LARGE CORPORATE STRUCTURE. POLICITICS MEANS ASKING IF NOT BEGGING PEOPLE TO DO THINGS RATHER THAN ORDERING THEM. UNLIKELY DE BEER WILL RETURN TO POLITICS; MORE LIKELY HE WILL FOR PERSONAL REASONS ACCEPT POST WITH CHARTER IN LONDON FOLLOWING TUROVER HIS JOB TO ZAMBIAN IN JULY.  
WILKOWSKI

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## Message Attributes

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